

SV 0703NMS (JUL/AUG 2003)

- **Days at Nauru: 14July – 18July**
- **Days at Port Moresby: 19 July**
- **Days at Manus: 20July – 23July**
- **Days at Port Moresby: 24July – 25July**
- **Days at Samoa: July 28 - July31**

Nauru

14 July

- Barnes, Andersen, Hayward and Nitschke all arrived safely 0800 following the decision to proceed with travel after official word from Air Nauru that operations are back to normal and that the Air Nauru aircraft had NOT been sold. Flights schedules will continue as normal and it is anticipated that all four will be on the Friday flight
- Barnes undertook a site safety inspection with no issues to report.
- The site looks in good condition with a number of construction activities completed
- Water tank reticulation 90%
- Tran container changeover 20%
- Nitschke had a preliminary meeting at 0930 with Cain to set up this week's activity.
- All had a meeting with DED at 1500hrs to discuss kiosk filming strategy opportunities. The Kiosk concept was very well received by DED. Joseph Cain has indicated a very strong support the kiosk and possible support from within other sectors of the environmental fraternity.
- Filming starts tomorrow morning and a meeting has been set up for Wednesday with the National Environmental Co-ordination Committee.
- Meeting tomorrow 1000 with Cain and Dieye to discuss with Nitschke operational issues.

15 July

- Kiosk interviews were held today and began with the following interviewees:
Eidungure Mable Aliklik
Renso Paul
Daveyroxen Pene Agadio
Nicolas Duburiya
- Andrew Kaierua and Pene Agadio were paramount in setting up contacts and interviews.
- Julie Olsen from the Department for Land Use and Planning is in charge of public awareness and has an appointment for interview for tomorrow
- The interview team met with Lise Kuhn from the Department of Education.
- A meeting with the National Environmental Co-ordination Committee has been confirmed for 1500 tomorrow.
- Nitschke investigated electrolyser problem and discussed with Troy. Further work will be undertaken tomorrow.

- Nitschke met with Tyrone Dieye and Joseph Cain @ 1400hrs to discuss operational and management issues. Meeting minutes were taken and a report will be forwarded tomorrow.
- An observer Bar-B-Que has been planned for Thursday night.

16 July

- Five more Kiosk interviews were held today by Barnes, Hayward and Andersen, along with some footage of the wet weather we have been having.
- The film crew was questioned by members of the Australian Protective Services (APS) and had their names taken. Hans indicated that permission had been sought from DED and that they were not there to film APS staff members staying at the Menen hotel. Nitschke will monitor the situation and is considering approaching the APS management to get clarification of their requirements and why they believe they have the mandate to question whom they like.
- The newly installed water tanks are now 90% full. There is a need to continue to finish some reticulation to the toilet block. I will ask through Joseph Cain (refer yesterdays meeting report) for it to be arranged.
- Nitschke and Barnes made a presentation to the Nauru National Environment Co-ordination Committee. The Concept for a kiosk was very well received with some good ideas for content and location being provided by participants. In general it was acknowledged that the kiosk would be best located in the cultural centre soon to be developed. Philippa and Hans took some footage of the meeting attended by 10 members of the NECC.
- Nitschke oversaw the changeover and final testing of the emergency generator water pump. Francis, Rob and Chris did a more than professional job and it went without a hitch. The generator was tested to operating temperature (175F) for 10 minutes with no sign of leakages and is now back in standby.
- Nitschke diagnosed the electrolyser fault to be the bell housing S-bend water seal. The seal needs to be maintained full of water to ensure sufficient back pressure for the H2 gas to raise the gasometer. Troy Culgan will submit a contact sheet and Nitschke instructed Nicolas and Franklin on corrective/maintenance procedures. (i.e. Keep the s-bend full of water using a syringe). The water appears to have evaporated over time.

17 July

- Nitschke had a meeting with Tyrone and Cain to review meeting minutes from Tuesday meeting. Please find attached the minutes that were signed by all parties. Of particular note is item No. 3. Joseph has sent a minute to all ARM staff outlining the new operational /administrative procedures. Hard copies of his memo will be forwarded. Nitschke requested an electronic copy however the PC used to prepare it has died. In general: everything has to go through Joseph Cain.
- The film crew continues to conduct interviews. Today seven additional interviewees were subjected to Hans Andersen's questioning, Fairley Barnes encouragement and Philippa Hayward's critical eye.
- The newly installed water tanks are now 100% full. There is a need to continue to finish some reticulation to the toilet block and there are no overflow pipes. The

carport area roof works well and there is now an impressive waterfall feature during heavy rain. There is a suggestion to provide guttering that feeds to the roof of the existing ARCS shelter or to install a third tank behind the AERI.

- The Air Nauru aircraft DID arrive today on its way to Fiji. It is anticipated that the service tomorrow will be on schedule. HOWEVER, we do have word that Air Nauru have not been successful in forwarding in-arrears lease payments to Exxon and next weeks flight schedule is looking very tenuous (again). Nitschke, Andersen, Hayward and Barnes will be departing for Brisbane at 1435.
- Due to inclement weather, the observers' bar-b-que has been changed to dinner at the Moon-river restaurant.
- As usual there is still a lot to do with very little time but if there is anything we can possibly help with, drop us an email.
- The absorption rate of MSG continues to increase. Recommend ARM seriously consider supporting at the minimum, the establishment of a pizza restaurant.

18 July

- Andersen and Hayward interviewed Nitschke and then took some more scenic footage of Nauru.
- Barnes had a meeting with Cain at DED to review ARM promotional material.
- Nitschke reviewed outstanding activities with Kaierua and discussed arrangements for Car maintenance with both Duburiya and Kaierua whom believe the current arrangement utilizing petty cash is working well. Nitschke did not have time to visit Jeremiah at Jeremiah's to discuss options however both Kaierua and Duburiya were again satisfied with current arrangements.
- Nitschke had requested a meeting with Henry to discuss his lack of performance. He did not turn up.
- The observers' dinner was well received by all in attendance. Nitschke thanked the observers for continuing to put in a dedicated effort considering what must be a difficult time in maintaining morale, when staff salaries are in arrears by as much as 3 months. Robroy Whippy was officially welcomed to the team. Joseph Cain responded with thanks to ARM for their continued support and the positive reaction that the filming for the kiosk has generated. Fairley Barnes thanked Andrew Kaierua (absent) and Pene Roxon for their efforts in setting up 17 interviews.
- Air Nauru check in-staff informed us that the schedule for next week should not be affected. The following however week is "not looking good". Ian Cranes visit should not be affected, however it is recommend that he keep in close contact with Air Nauru management
- Hayward, Barnes, Andersen and Nitschke departed Nauru on ON351 at 1225 following what they believe is going to be their last Chinese meal.... ever.
- All arrived safely in Brisbane. Barnes continued on to Cairns, while Nitschke, Andersen and Hayward stayed overnight.

Port Moresby

19 July

- Barnes, Andersen, Hayward and Nitschke traveled to Port Moresby arriving at 1400hrs.
- Nitschke had a meeting with Kevin Luana, Papua New Guinea, National Meteorology Service Director to discuss security service and observational staffing issues on Manus Island. Kevin noted that the Manus island Administrator, Mr Wep KANAWI, is looking forward to discussing the Kiosk concept and a meeting have been arranged for 1000 Monday morning.
- All depart for Manus Island at 0900 hrs tomorrow morning.

Manus

20 July

- Met Robert Thompson at the domestic terminal
- Barnes, Andersen, Hayward, Thompson and Nitschke traveled to Manus Island arriving at 1200hrs.
- Avis rent a car were not advised of our arrival and a booking had not been made. The office was closed and arrangements will be made tomorrow morning to obtain two rental vehicles.
- All, except Thompson caught the Harbourside Hotel bus into Lorengau. All were given an orientation of Lorengau including hospital and police station locations. Thompson remained on site to evaluate operational procedures for the evening balloon flight.
- All, except Thompson had a meeting in the PM to discuss the week's activities and plan a course of action for filming.

21 July

- Nitschke met with Robert Thompson at the Harbourside Hotel to discuss operational issues:
- Security staff
Existing arrangements are not satisfactory with Casual CAA security personnel often not attending.
Nitschke suggested that the NWS investigate the possibility of a contract with a local firm and that the NWS has the mandate in providing security services on their station. ARM has identified a requirement for security and has supported the hiring of security personnel. How this is achieved using the resources supplied by ARM is best coordinated by the NWS. A meeting between Thompson, Nitschke and the local security contractor has been scheduled for tomorrow at 10am.
- House repairs quotation contract
The repairing of the houses is again a NWS issue and Nitschke recommended that the NWS would be in the best position to coordinate works and resources. A meeting between Thompson, Nitschke and the anticipated contractor P Plumbing has been scheduled for tomorrow at 1400hrs.
- Vehicle use
Thompson informed Nitschke that there are some difficulties with bicycle use during periods of heavy rain and at night. Nitschke has suggested that co using the CAA vehicle operated by the airport manager should be investigated. The vehicle

does require some minor mechanical servicing and perhaps repairs could be undertaken using the NWS budget as a show of mutual benefit and support. Nitschke will follow-up with Kevin Luana on his return to Port Moresby.

- **Shipping**
Nitschke raised concerns about the need to ensure expedited duty exceptions from Port Moresby customs. Thompson had indicated that there should be fewer difficulties now that the NWS has a vehicle.
- **Observational staffing**
A serious situation exists where only two staff is available for observations duties. Mary John is on maternity leave and will no longer be working on the site and James Pepa is still in Mt Hagen. James is expected to back this week. Alex Gabi (Tau's son) currently in Misima will be replacing Mary John. Nitschke reinforced the need to have both James and Alex here as soon as possible. Thompson is to approach Gabi and ask if he can come earlier staying at his relative's house near Momote.
- Nitschke met with Dick Pearse to review national shipping logistics, email usage and deliveries to and from the site. Nitschke has asked Pearse to provide a summary of the problems currently faced and possible solutions. It appears that Pearse may need a courier to deliver packages once cleared to Momote.
- Avis rent a car were contacted and arrangements made for the hire of two vehicles. The first one arrives at 0950 and the second was made available at 1400. Fairley Barnes used her Government Credit card
- All met with the Manus Island Administrator, Mr. Wep Kanawi, and Director of Education, Mr. Kanawi Sidal, to discuss the kiosk, our intentions and to seek assistance with village contacts and strategic placement of the kiosk. Following a presentation by Barnes, Mr. Kanawi, seemed very supportive of the kiosk concept and encouraged the wider deployment of the kiosk particularly at the remote community level. Mr. Kanawi suggested a further meeting to be held latter in the week with the Education sector to broaden community support. Mr. Kanawi assigned the assistant education Mr. Laurence Tjamei to accompany the film crew and looked forward to working closely together with ARM on this project.
- Barnes, Andersen, Tjamei and Hayward filmed two interviews in the Los Negro's area (Mokoreng Village) and are very pleased with the footage obtained so far.
- Nitschke and Thompson met with Francis Anuma to discuss staffing issues including that of staff rotations, performance and training for replacement staff.

22 July

- Nitschke met with Robert Thompson and Security Contractor, Mr. Simon Aronne to discuss a possible contract to secure security services for the ARCS site.

Nitschke reemphasized and supported the need for the PNG NWS to take a lead on coordinating and assessing the need to change existing arrangements. ARM will support the NWS management of the contract as a direct contract with ARM is not possible.

Nitschke informed Thompson that any alteration to security arrangements should fit within existing budget allocations. Thompson is confident that this could be well achieved.

The terms of reference for the proposal is being finalized by Thompson, however it is noted that Mr. Aronne will be providing training for his security staff, uniforms and transportation to and from the site.

Mr. Aronne will be forwarding a proposal to the NWS as soon as possible

- Andersen, Barnes, Hayward, and Tjamei filmed another 6 interviews in and around the Los Negros island region.
- In aiding the PNG NWS with the management of their house repair contract, Nitschke met with the works contractor, Pangila Plumbing, and reviewed the scope of works and quotation.
- The electrolyser ceased to produce sufficient amperage to generate hydrogen. Nitschke tested all obvious reasons before leaving in the pm for Lorengau. Nitschke will revisit the electrolyser tomorrow morning before departing for Port Moresby.

23 July

- Nitschke investigated the electrolyser fault and with remote assistance from Darwin it was determined there was no simple solution. After changing over the control unit and testing the high pressure switch, it was apparent that perhaps one of the cells had collapsed and that the defective cell should either be bypassed temporarily or replaced with a spare that is in stock on site. This scope of the work was deemed to be beyond the capacity of Manus Island observing staff and Nitschke has recommended that a technician from the PNG NWS be sent to carry out the repair with remote assistance from the BoM maintenance unit following confirmation from the BoM that all spares and equipment necessary is available on site. Troy Culkan is to review the spares holdings and notify Nitschke of the status. Nitschke will discuss with Luana, the need to send a NWS Technician and outline the work required with that designated technician.
- The painting is progressing well with Simon Bisi having a good appreciation for the delicate nature of the equipment, cables and the need to concentrate on specific areas of rust.
- Nitschke left for Manus Island at 1300hrs and arrived at Jackson's at 1800hrs.
- Barnes, Hayward, Andersen, and Tjamei continued to interview members of remote communities. The filming is progressing well and the people of Manus Island are only too happy to share their climate related experiences in front of the camera.
- Good progress on interviews, visiting the islands of Ponam and Andra. Fairley also talked to a teacher who was at the workshop last year and received good feedback on the workshop; also talked to other teachers in the area.
- Fairley, Hans Andersen, and I talked about changes to kiosk hardware and the purchase quotes. NEO products is the desired vendor, and the requested changes to the computer hardware (512 MB RAM, Bigger hard drive) were added. I

requested another quote from NEO to accommodate these changes, although they should be minor.

Port Moresby

24 July

- Nitschke met the Director of the PNG National Weather Service, Mr. Kevin Luana to discuss ARM operational issues:
Following the recent fault of the electrolyser it was determined that the NWS would very much like to participate more closely with the maintenance team. At present the NWS has only two technicians. Elijah Gareitz has formal Bureau of meteorology training on the electrolyser. Luana has agreed that it would good to send Gareitz as soon as possible up to manus to assist with the repair of the electrolyser. Nitschke reviewed the work requirements with Gareitz and he seemed confident in repairing the unit whilst maintaining a close collaboration with the ARM technical maintenance unit, Darwin. Try Culgan has confirmed that spares are available on site. Luana is organizing Gareitz's travel for this Sunday.

The security contract issue was discussed with agreement that the NWS should coordinate and make a decision on the most appropriate course of action.

The staffing situation on Manus is critical with only two staff covering shifts. Nitschke re-enforced the need to alleviate the problem as soon as possible. James Pepa is booked on a flight for this Sunday (possibly traveling with Gareitz and Ian Crane) and Alex Gabi is currently making plans to arrive in manus before Mary John's house is vacated by being accommodated with relatives. This has been supported by Luana. Alex Gabi may be able to be there within two weeks.

- Nitschke undertook a review of the PNG NWS upper air program. Report not attached as it too big to send via hotmail.
- Nitschke anticipates connecting with Barnes, Hayward and Andersen again tomorrow afternoon at 1400hrs following their flight to Port Moresby.
- Nitschke Leaves Port Moresby at 1500hrs for Brisbane tomorrow and will meet the film crew in Samoa.
- Conducted interviews with Lawrence Tjamei, section head of environment and division policy planning and research; Web Kanawi, acting provincial administrator; and 4 teachers who had previously attended ARM education workshops.

25 July

- Barnes reviewed a proposal from the PNG government to ARM for educational purposes. Barnes is bringing the proposal back with her from travel.
- Barnes conducted a safety management walk around.
- The whole crew finished up scenic shots on the way to the airport.
- At the airport, the crew met with Elizabeth Pokawin, wife of the former provincial governor of Manus.

Apia, Samoa

28-30 July

- Dr. Fairley Barnes gave a presentation at the "Experts meeting on Environmental Education" that was very well received with a lot of questions
- Marshall island, Samoa and others requested information on ARM education outreach activities.
- Barnes discussed ARM education outreach with UNEP representative Mr. Mahesh Pradham
- Andersen and Hayward have interviewed 7 meeting participants since Monday.
- Barnes made contact with Mr. Joseph Murphy the Chair d' affaire at the US Embassy, Samoa who seems very interested in ARMs activities within the region.
- Nitschke, Barnes Hayward and Andersen met with the Director of SPREP Mr. Asterio Takesy to discuss the Kiosk concept. Asterio was very pleased to be of assistance. SPREP staff including the Climate Change Coordinator, Climate Adaptation Officer and the Director will be interviewed tomorrow.
- All are well, albeit a little tired and have unanimously agreed that the trip to date has been extremely valuable.
- Barnes and Andersen have planned out the rest of the KIOSK project for the next two months
- Barnes is making an attempt to find Andrew Pitcher at Nauru house Melbourne for Nauruan translations.
- Nitschke received the new Tropical Western Pacific poster. Nice job TWPO.

30-31 July

- SPREP staff, Taito Nakalevu, Andrea Volentras and the SPREP Director Mr. Asterio Takesy were interviewed. This completed the filming of interviews. In excess of 50 interviews were taken for the trip.
- Barnes met with Andersen to review and map out future kiosk activities
- Hayward and Andersen departed for New Zealand at 1400hrs after a job well done.
- Barnes attended the third day of the experts of education meeting.
- Barnes made contact with Andrew Pitcher at Nauru house Melbourne to confirm his availability to undertake the Nauruan interview translations. Andersen to fly to Melbourne with tapes as soon as practical.
- The experts of education meeting finished at 1400hrs on the 1st of August. Barnes was delighted with the outcome and was pleased to have supported the meeting.